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Message Text

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17
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-04

FRB-01 INR-05 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03

SP-02 CIEP-01 LAB-01 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15

STR-01 CEA-01 L-01 H-01 DODE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01

/078 W
---------- 018668
R 070753Z NOV 74
FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4666
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY SAIGON

C O N F I D E N T I A L THE HAGUE 5396

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, EAID, VS, NL
SUBJECT: DUTCH AID TO PRG

1. IN NOV 4 SHIP-SIDE CEREMONY IN ROTTERDAM, ATTENDED BY DUTCH MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION PRONK, THE NETHERLANDS-VIETNAM MEDICAL COMMITTEE (NVMC) TURNED OVER A PREFABRICATED HOSPITAL TO REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PROVISIONAL REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT. HOSPITAL, PLUS DENTAL SURGERY EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES FOR A NORTH VIETNAMESE PROVINCIAL HOSPITAL, WERE LOADED ABOARD AN EAST GERMAN VESSEL WHICH IS PROVIDING FREE SHIPMENT. THESE GIFTS FROM NVMC WERE SYMBOLICALLY ACCEPTED BY PHAM VAN BA, PRG PARIS REP, AND NORTH VITENAMESE AMBASSADOR TO FRANCE, VO VANG SUNG.

2. NVMC REPORTED TO HAVE COLLECTED 2 1/2 MILLION GUILDERS (ALMOST US $1 MILLION) FOR PURCHASE OF THE HOSPITAL WHICH IS TO BE ERECTED AT BINH VIEN HA-LAN IN PRG CONTROLLED TERRITORY. GON'S CONTRIBUTION OF ONE MILLION
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GUILDERS OF TOTAL HAD PREVIOUSLY BEEN ANNOUNCED.

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(THE HAGUE 4226, EXDIS, NOTAL).

3. PRONK, SPEAKING AT CEREMONY, SAID PREVIOUS DUTCH GOVERNMENTS HAD "NOT CARED VERY MUCH" ABOUT NEEDS OF VIETNAMESE. "THE PHILOSOPHY OF PRESENT GOVERNMENT IS CLEAR, HOWEVER. WE AIM AT CONTACTS WITH BOTH NORTH AND SOUTH VIET-NAM." WITH REGARD TO THE "LIBERATED AREAS IN SOUTH VIET-NAM," ONLY INDIRECT RELATIONS WERE POSSIBLE. "WE WILL GLADLY MAKE USE OF OPPORTUNITY" AFFORDED BY NVMC FOR CONTACTS. EMBASSY WILL POUCH TEXT OF PRONK'S STATEMENT.

4. IN RESPONSE EMBASSY'S QUERY REGARDING PRONK'S PARTICIPATION, MFA'S FAR EAST DIRECTOR SAID CEREMONY HAD "NO POLITICAL MEANING" AND WAS RELATED SOLELY TO PRONK'S "HUMANITARIAN" ENDEAVORS. NOTING THAT GON'S CONTRIBUTION OF 1 MILLION GUILDERS WAS TO NETHERLANDS VIETNAM MEDICAL COMMITTEE, A PRIVATE ORGANIZATION, AND NOT TO PROG, DIRECTOR STATED TURNOVER CEREMONY IN NO WAY INVOLVED GON RECOGNITION OF PRG.
GOULD

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